

**REMARKS**

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants are canceling claims 1-29.

Claims 30-47 have been added.

Support for the new claims may be found on page 10, lines 4-17. Specifically, the specification notes that (emphasis added) “[a] file in NTFS is defined as a set of *attributes*.” Each file attribute is stored as “a separate *stream* of bytes within a file.” Furthermore, on page 2, lines 3- 15, the specification states that “each unit of information associated with a file [is] implemented as a *file attribute*.” Each file attribute “consists of a single *stream* or sequence of bytes.”

In view of the foregoing amendments and prior art of record, the claims are believed to be allowable. Accordingly, early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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